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Greek philosophy

 "There are two forms of knowledge, one genuine, one obscure. To the obscure belong all the following: sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch. The other is genuine and is quite distinct from this."

Democritus, Fragment 11

Thomas Aquinas

 "Those senses chiefly regard the beautiful, which are the most cognitive, viz., sight and hearing, as ministering to reason; for we speak of beautiful sights and beautiful sounds. But in reference to the other objects of the other senses, we do not use the expression beautiful, for we do not speak of beautiful tastes, and beautiful odours."

(Summa Theologica 1a2ae.27.1ad 3)



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Tasting Wine as a Spiritual Practice

To drink is to pray, to binge drink is to sin (Germany proverb)

Attention in its highest form is prayer (Simone Weil, French mystic)

William Wordsworth

The world is too much with us; late and soon, Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers; Little we see in Nature that is ours; We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon! This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon, The winds that will be howling at all hours, And are upgathered now like sleeping flowers, For this, for everything, we are out of tune .. and It moves us not. --Great God!

Tasting Wine as a Spiritual Practice

A human tongue has between 2000 and 5000 taste buds, each taste bud has between 50 and 150 taste receptor cells

We have about 1000 different olfactory receptor cells, located in our nose and at the back of our throat

Tasting Wine as a Spiritual Practice

Wine & eschatology: Matthew 26:29

Jesus at the Last Supper:

"I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."